

FLICK PICKS

BEAVIS AND BUTTHEAD DO AMERICA

Reviewed by Jason Smith
8th Grade

I thought "Beavis and Butthead Do America" was funny and hilarious. My favorite part was when Beavis told Butthead to jump out of the car. That was really funny. I also liked the part with Mr. Anderson. My brother and I couldn't stop laughing through the whole movie because Beavis and Butthead were so funny. Some girls in the theater thought the movie was really gross, but I just thought it was really funny. My brother says that Beavis and Butthead do America is fun for all ages, but I think that college kids wouldn't like it. Beavis and Butthead is funny for people with less intelligence.

THE ENGLISH PATIENT

Reviewed by Suzyn Smith

Had "The English Patient" been 45 minutes shorter, it would have been a truly stellar movie. Even though it is too long, it is still very good. It the story of an Austrian Archeologist named Count D'Almasay and his love affair with Katharine, the wife of a close friend. The story is revealed piece by piece in flashbacks, which are interwoven with a plot line about a nurse who is attempting to nurse the Count back to health after he is in a plane crash. This is the only movie I have ever seen that featured a sex scene with "Silent Night" playing in the background. Another scene not to be missed: The scene where a man leaves a trail of candles for his lover to follow. Audience members who don't love the more sensual side of drama and romance might get a little bored, but those who still rent "Casablanca" will be enchanted.

MY FELLOW AMERICANS

Reviewed by Suzyn Smith

Washingtonians and Americans in general have recently been blessed with a long string of interesting movies that show life in the White House. Strangely enough, none of these have given a real feel for the office. "Dave" was a regular guy. President Whitmore in "Independence Day" was an action figure, if an intelligent one. And Andy in "The American President" was less a leader than a lover. But in "My Fellow Americans," we are given a look at two Presidents who are also people. The

movie is primarily a comedy involving two ex-presidents trying to find out who framed them for having taken bribes. But it has moments that are truly touching, particularly the one where the two discuss what it is like to no longer be the most powerful man in the world. They ran the country, but they can't remember how to drive and they don't carry cash.

101 DALMATIANS

Reviewed by Suzyn Smith

Ten minutes into "101 Dalmations," it's clear that Pongo is a very impressive dog. By then, he has awakened his master, turned on his master's computer, and made breakfast. The animals in this movie are truly impressive and the scenes that feature them are the movie's best.

Unfortunately, the actors keep interrupting. Glenn Close is particularly disappointing as Cruella DeVil, a performance I'd been looking forward to. Close's DeVil has no depth. She's evil, because, well, she is. Close has no motivation. Perhaps more endearing Disney villains, such as Ursula the Sea Witch or Gaston, have spoiled me, but Glenn Close seemed more like a cartoon than most Disney villains who really are cartoons.

The movie's other chief disappointment is that many of the scenes where the puppies escape, which had wonderful potential for animal training, have been replaced by the villains being hit on the head, knocked in the mud, and suffering various other indignities. If you're looking for villains punished by slapstick comedy, rent Home Alone, a movie that does it better. If you're looking for Glenn Close as a villain, rent "Fatal Attraction." And if you're looking for 101 Dalmations, rent the cartoon. But don't spend seven dollars to see the worst aspects of all three.

EVITA

Reviewed by Suzyn Smith

The idea of making a musical of Andrew Lloyd Webber's cynical rock opera Evita is a strange one. Almost as strange as the idea that Madonna might successfully borrow style and class from a dead Argentinian. However, it would appear that both ideas were good ones.

Evita is a movie on a grand scale, and a grand movie it is. Madonna is actually very

good, both as a singer and an actress. Antonio Banderas also turns in a fine performance.

At times, the music was a little much and the absence of a clear narrative made following this movie difficult for me as I'd never read about the life of Peron. My father had read a bit about Peron and didn't have trouble following the movie at all. Perhaps a quick trip to the Evita website to read a plot summary would make the movie more enjoyable and easier to follow.

JERRY MAGUIRE

Reviewed by Melissa Collins

"Show me the money!" the line is repeated throughout this Tom Cruise movie. Surprisingly enough, this movie has appeal for the romantic and sports loving alike. The plot line exists on many levels in this movie about a sports agent with a commitment problem. But Tom Cruise is not the only attraction this movie has to offer. Cuba Gooding, Jr. makes his name a household word with his spectacular portrayal of an off the wall wide receiver represented by Cruise's Jerry Maguire. The movie has a wide spread and a nice ending. I highly recommend it.

MARS ATTACKS

Reviewed by Marlon Carey

If you saw Independence day and you're like me, you loved it to death but you wanted more one on one fighting between humans and aliens. The only scene which comes close is when Will Smith decked the alien in his er...eyes I guess, and said the now famous quote "Welcome to Earth". Well Tim Burton, director of such box office hits as "Batman" and "A Nightmare Before Christmas", fills that need with his latest movie "Mars Attacks". The screenplay originated from a series of trading cards that during the 1950's was considered too extreme for the public. The cards were quickly taken off the market. Remembering the cards, Burton sought to bring the essence of the alien craze to the present. These aliens are in your face with their ray guns and they don't care. It's a comedy, but you get a good dose of in-your-face-zap-zap-poo! With a plethora of stars (including Annette Bening, Tom Jones, Jack Nicholson and Glenn Close) this very funny film is sure to make you spill popcorn on the people in front of you.